

HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 17, 2013

Budget Committee Members Present

Eileen Latimer, Chairman
Richard Reniere, Vice-Chairman
Philip Bean, Selectman Representative
Ginny Bridle, School Board Representative
Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District Representative
Pat Collins
Richard Desrosiers
Joe Grzybowski
Timothy Citizen Jones
Sunny Kravitz
Brian Lapham
Mark McFarlin'

Excused

Sandra Nickerson

Chairman Latimer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The members of the Committee were introduced.

Chairman Latimer said that Committee member Michael Plouffe has gone on to the Select Board and it is necessary to replace him. This opening was posted and there were two people who expressed interest. One was Diane Sanphy who later declined to be considered due to personal reasons. The other is Stephen LaBranche.

Moved by Ms. Bridle, seconded by Mr. Reniere, to appoint Stephen LaBranche to the Hampton Budget Committee until March 2014.

Vote: 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Shirley Doheny of the Town Clerk's office then swore in Mr. La Branche. Mr. LaBranche then joined the Committee.

Chairman Latimer said that Victor DeMarco has tendered his resignation to this Committee for personal reasons. She thanked Mr. DeMarco for his work on the Committee. There is now another opening and it will be posted tomorrow. Anyone interested should contact the Town Manager.

Chairman Latimer welcomed SAU 90 Superintendent Kathleen Murphy and Business Administrator Nathan Lunney. She also welcomed School Board Chairman Peppa Ring.

Superintendent Murphy said they would do a presentation and review of school year 2012-2013. Chairman Latimer noted that the School Board calendar does not coincide with the Town calendar.

Superintendent Murphy discussed the Mission Statement . She said this sets out what they want to accomplish for the best education for students. It is a guiding document. This past year there were five goals. The first is to achieve 100% proficiency in core subject areas. Work continues on this goal. The second goal is to promote communication with parents, students, staff and the community. The third goal is to provide a healthy and safe learning environment for students. The fourth goal is to establish efficiencies to align financial resources with desired academic outcomes. The fifth goal is to complete a 5-year Strategic Plan. This Strategic Plan was presented to the Committee.

Superintendent Murphy then discussed Accomplishments. Staff has been reduced due to enrollment. STEM and World Language have been added and a Teacher Effectiveness Plan has been launched. There has been full implementation of Olweus (culture & climate) and PBIS (bullying).

Mr. Lunney said there has been a wireless upgrade at Hampton Academy and an upgrade to the Marston phone system and intercom. The Hampton Academy sprinkler system has been implemented and firewalls, bathrooms and lockers upgraded at Marston. There have been savings in Transportation with the reduction of a second bus. Alternative funding has been pursued. There were budget savings of \$82,169 and there is a fund balance to offset taxes of \$136,049. It was necessary to transfer \$14,000 from the General Fund to balance the Food Service program. The balance of the Special Education Trust Fund at June 30 was \$211,777.25.

Mr. Lunney said the Centre School addition is up and running and came in on budget.

Mr. McFarlin asked about transportation costs. Mr. Lunney explained the McKinney Vento law which provides transportation for homeless students to the school district in which they had been previously enrolled. \$14,000 had been budgeted and expenses went to \$50,000.

Chairman Latimer asked what percentage Hampton is reimbursed for catastrophic aid. Mr. Lunney said reimbursement from the state comes after \$60,000 is spent.

Mr. Reniere asked about safety procedures. Mr. Lunney said a review has been done. Schools are locked all day. Superintendent Murphy said they carry out many kinds of drills and safety forums are held.

Mr. Ladd asked what percentage of students actually achieved proficiency. Superintendent Murphy said 88-89% are proficient in Language Arts. There is still work to be done.

The proposed cable station for the District was discussed. Ms. Bridle said Art Gopalan is the driving force behind this effort.

Superintendent Murphy said work continues on the Teacher Effectiveness Plan. The Mentor Program is continuing and is very successful. Career ladders for teachers is also being addressed. A District policy audit is being done and the transportation contract is being reviewed.

Chairman Latimer thanked Superintendent Murphy and Mr. Lunney for their fine presentation.

Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Mr. Lapham, seconded by Mr. Desrosiers, to approve the Minutes of April 16, 2013 as amended.

Vote: 11 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (LaBranche). Mr. Jones did not vote in any category. Motion passed.

Chairman Latimer discussed the rules regarding email communication.

Mr. Reniere said he would like to request that Mike Schwotzer be at the next meeting to fill in the Committee on where we are now and where we are going.

Chairman Latimer said if anyone wants to add an item to the Agenda they should put it in writing and get it to her one week before the Agenda is published. Mr. Jones noted that it was previously voted that it be two weeks before.

Moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Lapham, that items to be added to the Agenda be submitted in writing to Chairman Latimer at least one week before the Agenda is published.

Vote: 11 yes, 1 no (Desrosiers), 1 abstention (Kravitz). Motion passed.

Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Desrosiers, seconded by Mr. Kravitz, that the meeting be adjourned.

Vote: 13 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. at which time the Committee went into Non-meeting session.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice

Secretary